

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the cancellation herein without prejudice of claims 9 and 13, claims 10, 11, and 14 to 17 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter included in claims 14 and 15. In this regard, the Examiner will note that claim 14 has been rewritten herein in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim, *i.e.*, claim 9. Furthermore, the Examiner will note that claim 14 has been amended herein without prejudice as suggested in the Final Office Action. As such, it is believed that claim 14 is in condition for immediate allowance.

Since claim 15 depends from claim 14, it is believed that claim 15 is also in condition for immediate allowance.

Claims 10, 11, 16, and 17 have been amended herein without prejudice to depend from claim 14. As such, it is believed that these claims are also in condition for immediate allowance.

III. Claim Rejections

In view of the cancellation herein without prejudice of claims 9 and 13, the amendments to claims 10, 11, 16, and 17 such that these claims now depend from claim 14, which was indicated to include allowable subject matter, and the amendments to claim 14 as suggested in the Final Office Action, it is believed and respectfully submitted that all rejections included in the Final Office Action are moot. Withdrawal of these rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

IV. Fees

The Director is authorized to charge any and all fees that may be required in connection with this paper or this application to the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon LLP, Deposit Account No. **11-0600**.

V. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 20, 2010

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